

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims replaces all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently amended) A method of creating an electronic document that is linked to another electronic document, the method comprising:

displaying a view of a selected electronic document on a graphical user interface, the view being displayed in a computer system configured for creating any of a plurality of types of electronic documents selectively as either of (i) an independent electronic document that is not linked to any other electronic document upon its creation, and (ii) a linked electronic document that is linked to another electronic document upon its creation;

displaying a menu that is an input control in the graphical user interface, the menu comprising user-selectable commands associated with at least some of the plurality of types of electronic documents, wherein upon any of the user-selectable commands being generated there is created a linked electronic document having the corresponding type;

receiving, while the view of the selected electronic document is being displayed, a predetermined user input generated with an the input control to create a first new electronic document; and

creating the first new electronic document in response to receiving the predetermined user input, wherein the selected electronic document and the first new electronic document are linked to each other, and wherein the input control is configured so that, upon a view of the first new electronic document being displayed in the graphical user interface and another input being generated using the menu, the input control can be used to create causes a second new electronic document to be created that is linked to the first new electronic document.

2. (Canceled)

3. (Currently amended) The method of claim 1, ~~wherein the predetermined user input is made by selection of a user-selectable command in a menu of the graphical user interface, and wherein the menu further includes another user-selectable command for creating an the independent electronic document that is not linked to the selected electronic document.~~

4. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the predetermined user input specifies that the first new electronic document is a follow-up of the selected electronic document.

5. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1, further comprising storing an identifier in association with at least one of the selected electronic document and the first new electronic document to link them to each other.

6. (Previously presented) The method of claim 5, further comprising using the identifier, while a view of the first new electronic document is being displayed, to provide access to the selected electronic document.

7. (Previously presented) The method of claim 5, further comprising using the identifier, while the view of the selected electronic document is being displayed, to provide access to the first new electronic document.

8. (Original) The method of claim 5, further comprising:
making a determination, in response to receiving the predetermined user input, that the view of the selected electronic document is being displayed; and
generating the identifier based on the determination.

9. (Previously presented) The method of claim 5, wherein a first identifier is stored in association with the selected electronic document and a second identifier is stored in association with the first new electronic document to link them to each other.

10. (Original) The method of claim 9, wherein the selected electronic document is also linked to at least one other electronic document and wherein a third identifier is stored in association with the selected electronic document to link them to each other.

11. (Original) The method of claim 10, wherein the selected electronic document is a follow-up of the at least one other electronic document.

12. (Currently amended) A computer program product tangibly embodied in an information carrier, the computer program product including instructions that, when executed, cause a processor to perform operations comprising:

display a view of a selected electronic document on a graphical user interface, the view being displayed in a computer system configured for creating any of a plurality of types of electronic documents selectively as either of (i) an independent electronic document that is not linked to any other electronic document upon its creation, and (ii) a linked electronic document that is linked to another electronic document upon its creation;

display a menu that is an input control in the graphical user interface, the menu comprising user-selectable commands associated with at least some of the plurality of types of electronic documents, wherein upon any of the user-selectable commands being generated there is created a linked electronic document having the corresponding type;

receive, while the view of the selected electronic document is being displayed, a predetermined user input generated with ~~an~~ the input control to create a first new electronic document; and

create the first new electronic document in response to receiving the predetermined user input, wherein the selected electronic document and the first new electronic document are linked to each other, and wherein the input control is configured so that, upon a view of the first new electronic document being displayed in the graphical user interface and another input being generated using the menu, the input control can be used to create causes a second new electronic document to be created that is linked to the first new electronic document.

13. (Previously presented) The computer program product of claim 12, wherein the operations further comprise:

store an identifier in association with at least one of the selected electronic document and the first new electronic document to link them to each other.

14. (Previously presented) The computer program product of claim 13, wherein the operations further comprise:

use the identifier, while a view of the first new electronic document is being displayed, to provide access to the selected electronic document.

15. (Previously presented) The computer program product of claim 13, wherein the operations further comprise:

use the identifier, while the view of the selected electronic document is being displayed, to provide access to the first new electronic document.

16. (Currently amended) A computer program product tangibly embodied in an information carrier, the computer program product including instructions that, when executed, generate on a display device a graphical user interface for creating an electronic document that is linked to another electronic document, the graphical user interface comprising:

a document display area wherein a view of a selected electronic document can be displayed, the graphical user interface being generated in a computer system configured for creating any of a plurality of types of electronic documents selectively as either of (i) an independent electronic document that is not linked to any other electronic document upon its creation, and (ii) a linked electronic document that is linked to another electronic document upon its creation; and

a user-selectable an input control including a menu comprising user-selectable commands associated with at least some of the plurality of types of electronic documents, wherein upon any of the user-selectable commands being generated that creates a first new electronic document while the view of the selected electronic document is being displayed, a first new electronic document is created, wherein the selected electronic document and the first new electronic document are linked to each other, and wherein the input control is configured so that, upon a view of the first new electronic document being displayed in the graphical user interface and another input being generated using the menu, the input control can be used to create causes a second new electronic document to be created that is linked to the first new electronic document.

17. (Canceled)

18. (Currently amended) The computer program product of claim 16, wherein the ~~graphical user interface further comprises~~ a menu that further includes the user-selectable input control and another user-selectable input control for creating an the independent electronic document ~~that is not linked to the selected electronic document.~~

19. (Previously presented) The computer program product of claim 16, wherein the user-selectable input control provides that the first new electronic document is a follow-up of the selected electronic document.